The Oppreſſed Priſoners COMPLAINT

Of their great OPPRESSION: With a loud Call to *Englands Magiſtrates* for the exerciſe of Impartial *Juſtice*, before the Wrath of the Lamb break forth. With a brief Relation of the unparallel'd Proceedings of the Court, at the *Old Baily*, the fifth day of the fifth Month, 1662.

Mat. 3. 2. REpent, O *England*, for what thou haſt done
To God's dear Lambs, and to the holy One;
Oh hearken to the doleful hideous Cry
Of God's dear ones, that in your Priſons ly.
Exod. 22. 22 23. The Fatherleſs in thee, Oh *England*, cry
Iſa. 59. 14, 15. And groan, becauſe of Bonds and Cruelty;
For great Oppreſſion, it doth much abound,
As touching Juſtice, it cannot be found.
The Widows now, indeed, are made a prey,
Their bitter Cryes are heard, ſtill, day by day;
And in the ears of God their Cryes do come,
They ſhall be heard by Chriſt, the holy One.
Wo unto *England* then, when God ſhall plead
The righteous Cauſe, of Innocents; indeed
If *England* now ſhould plead, it is not guilty
Of any crime that now is counted filthy,
What mean you then, by halling every day
God's Worſhippers to Priſon; Yea, I ſay,
What Law of God have we indeed offended?
That by your Souldiers we are apprehended,
And in your filthy Goals are faſt ſecur'd,
And yet no Crime againſt us is procur'd;
What ſin is done? or Law have we offended,
That Juſtice ſtops, and ſurely is ſuſpended?
If that Offenders we, indeed, muſt be,
Wherefore in Court, our Charge, could we not ſee?
What is the Crime that we committed have?
Let's hear we pary, for Juſtice we do crave:
For we indeed, as free-born *Engliſh* men,
For Juſtice cry, which is our Right: agen
What Charge is laid againſt us, in this day,
Dan. 6. 5. Save in the matters of our God, I pray?
Is *Liberty of Conſcience* now a Sin,
Tho promiſed by *the WORD of a King*.
Beware, O Rulers, then, how you oppreſs
Acts 5. 28, 29. God's Heritage indeed, who do no leſs
Than his moſt Royal Law ſtrive to obay
By meeting in his fear, yea day by day:
Take heed, oh Rulers all, how you oppoſe
Mat. 18. 6. The marked one of Chriſt, whom he hath choſe.
Oh tender, as the Apple of his Eye,
Deut. 32. 10 Are they to him: Harm them not leaſt you dye.
The day will come that you will howl and cry
Becauſe of Torment and of Miſery.
Repent oh then, for what you have now done,
Ye Magiſtrates, and hearken to the Son.
In *London* ſtreets you needs muſt here a cry
Of Cruelty, and ſore Captivity;
Offenders ſcape, and juſt men apprehended,
Surely for this our God is much offended.
Nine ſcore Priſoners, in *Newgate* now doth ly
For Juſtice, Juſtice, there aloud do cry;
Beſides many Goals, in *England* round about,
God's Heritage are Priſoners without doubt.
Moſt Poor, and from our Wives and Children rended,
And here abus'd, when we ſhould be defended.
And when unto the Bar we there did come,
Looking for Juſtice, but yet finding none,
We call'd to ſee accuſers, face to face,
But met with Violence, to your diſgrace:
When no accuſer in your Court was found,
A Snare, immediately, you did propound.
And when in ſoberneſs we made our mone,
That no ſuch thing, in Conſcience, we could owne,
But Juſtice did there come for to behold:
Your Officers and Halberteers were bold
To pull and hale poor Priſoners at the Bar,
While we aloud for Juſtice crying were.
Inſtead of ſhewing Juſtice in that day,
Back to the Goal they haled us away.
Where patiently, through grace, we do abide
Till God the Controverſie ſhall decide.

Take heed oh Rulers all, and now give ear, *Jam.* 5. 9.
The coming of our Lord is very near:
Fulfil the righteous Law of God, oh then *Mich.* 6. 8.
In doing juſtice to the ſons of men:
And learn to walk in humbleneſs of mind,
Then to God's choſen ones you will be kind.
And do them Juſtice, while it's call'd to day,
Before grim Death doth ſnatch you quite away:
For after Death to Judgement you muſt come
And give account to God, what you have done. 2 *Cor.* 5. 10.
At his Tribunal Seat, oh you muſt ſtand
To anſwer to your Charge; it is at hand.
Where Chriſt and Conſcience will be your accuſer,
Right, Evidence will be without refuſer.
Oh with the Adverſary then agree, *Mat.* 5. 25.
Yea while you find him here now in the way,
Elſe dreadful will the day of Judgement be
To Rulers, and all Goalers, they ſhall ſee.
Repent therefore before it be to late, *Luke* 13. 3.
And labour to eſcape the cruel baite,
That Satan layes to catch your Souls therein,
And harm no more the Children of the King.
The Judgement day will prove moſt dreadful ſure, 1 *Chron.* 16.
Repent O *England*, better fruits procure: 21, 22.
For dreadful will the Lamb of God be then, 2 *Theſ.* 1. 8,
To all ſuch Rulers, that do rule for men. 9.
Come let the Captives of the Lamb go free, *Iſa.* 58. 6.
To ſerve there God and King with Loyalty.
'Tis not your Priſons, Bars, or Boults will ſcare
God's Children dear, or make them for to feare. *Luk.* 12.
The ſpoiling of their Goods, or Baniſhments alſo 4, 5.
Will not make ſuch decline the truth I know, *Heb.* 10. 34.
That do engage to meet now in God's fear, *Iſa.* 55. 6.
According to his will, they muſt appear;
His righteous Laws, they muſt and will obey,
And to their Meetings go, yea day by day.
Therefore take heed oh Rulers what you do,
Harm not Chriſts pretious flock, though they are few; *Pſal.* 2. 10,
For God himſelf it is that takes their part, 11, 12.
But rather to *Gamaliel's* Counſel hark,
Refrain from theſe men, and let them alone, *Acts* 5. 34.
For if their counſel be of God, he'l own
What they ſhall do, and with them he will go,
'Gainſt *Rulers* all, who ſeek their overthrow. *Acts* 5. 39.
This Remnant of the Lord, whom he hath choſe,
Fear then, thus day by day ſtill to oppoſe,
And careful be you fight not againſt him,
Leaſt he in pieces tear you for this ſin.
Therefore repent, and hearken to his voice,
And ſet the Captives free, that have made choice
To follow Chriſt, the Lamb of God, indeed
For follow him they muſt, and will with ſpeed.
His day of Vengeance is now drawing nigh, *Jer.* 51. 6.
Repent, oh *England*, and at Chriſt's foot lye.
The day is nigh that Vengeance it muſt come,
Decree'd by God, the Father and the Son:
When the ſixth Angel with's Vial doth appear, *Rev.* 16. 12,
We may conclude, that Jeſus Chriſt is near. --15.
Then wo to thoſe that perſecuters be, *Ezek.* 24. 6,
Chriſts dreadful Wrath and Vengeance they ſhall ſee. 7, 8, 9.
The Vials of God's Wrath on ſuch will come *Jer.* 51. 35,
For all the violence to *Zion* done. 36, 37.
Break off your ſins by righteouſneſs, I pray, *Iſa.* 3. 10,
Then happy ſhall you be, as Chriſt doth ſay, 11, 12.
And reign as Kings with Chriſt, upon his Throne, *Rev.* 1. 6.
If ye repent, ſurely he will you owne.
For all the Violence to Sion done,
Repent O *England*, and now kiſs the Son. *Pſal.* 2. *laſt.*

Written by S. B. a Priſoner
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